

## Task Code 028-029-030- PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW OF EXTENDED INITIAL STUDIES

### PURPOSE

As part of the continuation of the CEQA "Completeness" process, to ensure that the Department has all of the information, facts and analysis necessary to complete the initial study including extended initial studies such as biological and archaeological reports. CEQA Guidelines Section 15060.

### OUTLINE OF PRIMARY STEPS

#### Completed by Specialist

- Complete an Initial Review of the Technical Study. Verify if the technical study is subject to the new Guidelines for Determining Significance and Report Format & Content Requirements.
- Complete the technical review, provide comments on the document. Review for the relevant subject area and any other applicable policies.
- If the project is at an XIS task and it is requesting the 3<sup>rd</sup> or more iteration of revisions, it must be scheduled for a Project Issue Resolution Conference (111 task). Additionally, if the project is not progressing forward due to unresolved project related issues, a PIR should be considered.
- Complete the Consultant Evaluation Form
- Update Relevant Initial Study Question(s) - The responses to Initial Study questions relating to the relevant specialty area must be finalized. If there were potentially significant effects, include a discussion as to whether the mitigation measures and design considerations mitigate to a level clearly below the level of significance or avoid the impact altogether. A listing of any mitigation measures and design considerations is required in the Initial Study response.
- For Biology Reviews, complete the MSCP or HLP findings (Task 210 or Task 201, respectively), if applicable.